



Padre Island National Seashore
SandDollar



Friday, October 1, 2004

Superintendent

Now posted on the park's shared drive are two new folders I hope everyone will find useful. The first, labeled "blues" is a file of most external correspondence leaving the park, and the other, is a file of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's).

Both are available for your review and intended to provide valuable information, guidance, and promote communication in the park. Periodically, over the next year more SOP's will be added to the electronic file. All divisions are being provided a hard copy and the original file will be located in the Superintendent's office.

On a different note, I think the park is missing an important function not having an Equal Opportunity counselor located at PAI S. I would like to know if anyone and everyone who may be interested in filling this critical collateral role here at the park. Although we have counselors available to us from other areas, I don't think it is as useful as having someone local to speak with instead of over the phone.

This will be a good career development opportunity as the skills learned and applied are valuable to other positions with the National Park Service or other agencies. The person selected will

receive the necessary development training which may involve some travel.

Anyone interested in taking on this important challenge, please let me or Dimitra know.

Thanks, and stay safe!
Colin

Colin's schedule:

Colin and division chiefs will be out of the park October 4-7, 2004. They will be attending the GMP Workshop at the Holiday Inn.

Monday, 10/04 – GMP
Tuesday, 10/05 – GMP
Wed., 10/06 – GMP
Thurs., 10/07 – GMP
Friday, 10/08 – In the Park

Dimitra will be out of the Office October 4-8, 2004, attending Fundamentals V.

Safety Notes--

Let's continue to encourage each other to be safe.
Make it a safe day.

Employees Association News

Unfortunately, the park was unable to meet the minimum number of polo shirts that was required by the vendor. Shirts may become available at a later date. We will keep you posted.

SUPER RAFFLE TICKETS that support the Association of National Park Rangers, ANPR, are available through Pat Donohue. The tickets are \$5 each. The raffle will be held at the 27th Ranger Rendezvous on Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, in Rapid City South Dakota. Ticket sales end NOV. 1. If you want to buy a lot let

me know ASAP so I can order more tickets. You do NOT need to be present to win. You will be notified by mail by Dec.15, 2004.

The prizes:

- 1st \$4000 "roll-your-own-trip" or \$2000 cash.
- 2nd \$2000 "roll-your-own-trip" or \$1000 cash.
- 3rd Bose Wave radio with CD player.
- 4th Tom Till's print, "Green River Overlook," signed and framed (16 x 20).
- 5th Marc Muench's print, "Mount Rushmore Overlook," signed and framed (12 x 16).

Administration

OPEN SEASON WEBSITE INFORMATION

When Will the FEGLI 2004 Open Season Website Be Available?

The website at www.fegli2004.opm.gov will be available no later than September 1, 2004.

What Will Be Included On That Website?

The following information will be on the FEGLI 2004 Open Season website:

For Employees

Enrollment Packet Materials include:

Letter from OPM Director Kay Coles James

Open Season Brochure (Federal and Postal versions)

Worksheet to Estimate Life Insurance Needs

Open Season Election Form (FE-2004)

Interactive Worksheet to Estimate Life Insurance Needs

FEGLI Calculator

50th Anniversary Edition of the FEGLI Program Booklet (Federal and Postal versions)

Frequently Asked Questions about the FEGLI 2004 Open Season

Open Season Election Form (FE-2004)

Script of the Open Season Video (Please note that the video itself will not be on the website)

Open season for health benefits will be November 8 - December 13.

UPCOMING TEL EVENTS:

The webpage has been updated for TEL courses www.nps.gov/training/tel The "Schedule" tab gives you a list of upcoming courses with descriptions.

Upcoming Tel courses for October:
October 12 & 13-Respiratory Protection

**October 20-ELC Module 500- Living Leadership-Delivering
Delivering Results the Right Way**

**October 26-ELC Module 700-Communication Collaboration
Connection**

The ranger activities assistant position, GS-0303-5/6, will be open, merit promotion from Sept 29 - Oct 12. This position will also be open to the general public on 9/29/04-10/19/04, vacancy announcement PAIS-0413. These applications must be sent to San Antonio. Both positions will be on the HQ bulletin board and on usajobs.

Facility Management

CPL will be replacing overhead lines and equipment outside of the Park. We will NOT have any power on Thursday, October 7, 2004 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Please turn off your computers before this time and refrain from using excessive amounts of water. The lift station will not be able to pump and please do not wash your vehicle at this time.

Interpretation

The General Land Office sent the results for the adopt-a-beach clean-up listed beach by beach. We picked up the fifth largest amount of trash statewide with 11.64 tons. No. 1 was Galveston Island with 65 tons. Most beaches did not come close to the amount collected here. A copy of the announcement has been sent to PAIS All Employees.

Protection

The Ranger Activities Assistant GS-5/6 has been announced both as an all sources announcement and through merit promotion. These two methods of announcement provide for a wide recruitment audience so please consider applying. The vacancy closes October 12. Feel free to talk with Randy L. if you have any questions about the position.

The Hurricane Plan Draft is out for review. Please review and forward any comments.

Another document that is up for review is the Superintendent's Compendium. The Compendium covers a wide variety of special regulations affecting many activities in the park. If you have felt a need for a regulation that would allow for an activity, or on the other hand, a regulation that is needed to better protect park resources, now is the time to share your thoughts. We welcome all your ideas.

With beach conditions as smooth as SPID rangers are seeing some very high speeds on the beach. In the last week Rangers have issued several citations for speeding including one violator who was traveling over 60 MPH. This is a significant safety concern for park visitors so if you are out in the field and see a reckless driver don't hesitate to call dispatch with your observations. Speaking of watching out - there are a lot of nice looking bucks roaming the park right now and it is our responsibility to protect them. Two weeks ago a buck was poached at Mansfield Channel. When you are out and about keep in mind there are people that look at the National Seashore as a place to easily poach wildlife. Do your part in protecting the park and our wildlife by reporting any suspicious individuals to Dispatch.

Don't forget the Scoggins going away party is Wednesday, October 27 at Bennigan's.

Resources Management

Personnel:

- Arlene is on AL until October 12. She will be back in the office on October 13th.

Projects:

- We are currently working on proposals and the Implementation plan for the Piping Plover project scheduled to start this winter.

Oil & Gas:

- We are currently waiting the approval of the Peach EA from regional.

Division of Sea Turtle Science and Recovery

Donna and Cynthia will operate a booth in the Coastal Fisheries Division tent at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Expo on Saturday October 2 and Sunday October 3, with travel to and from Austin on Friday October 1 and Monday October 4. The booth will focus on the Texas Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network, sea turtle nesting in Texas, and NPS sea turtle efforts at Padre Island National Seashore.

The last once per day patrol to the Mansfield Channel to look for stranded sea turtles and late season nesting ended on Thursday September 30. Beginning the week of October 3, volunteers will patrol in a truck once per week to the Mansfield Channel looking for stranded sea turtles.

Donna will attend the GMP meeting at the Holiday Inn from October 5-7.

Division staff are working on a variety of projects in the office.